

## CASE PROCESSING STANDARDS ANALYSIS JUVENILE - NEGLECT AND ABUSE

### National Center for State Courts Model Time Standards:

Adjudication Hearing: 98% within 90 days of removal  
 Permanency Hearing: 75% within 270 days of removal  
 98% within 360 days of removal

**Measurement:** Date of removal through adjudication

### Arizona Juvenile – Neglect and Abuse

The Arizona Case Processing Standards Steering Committee recommends that Arizona adopt a different standard:

**Adjudication Hearing:**  
**98% within 90 days of service**

**Measurement:** Date of service on a parent or guardian through a finding of dependency.

**Permanency Hearing:**  
**98% of children under 3 years of age within 180 days/6 months of removal**  
**98% of all other cases within 360 days of removal**

**Measurement:** Date of removal through permanent plan determination.

Arizona Rules and Statutes	Timelines under Statute and Rule
<b>Petition Filed:</b> A.R.S. <sup>1</sup> § 823(B)(6)  A.R.S. § 824(A) Rule 50, ARJP <sup>2</sup>  A.R.S. § 8-842(A) Rule 52, ARJP  A.R.S. § 8-844(A) Rule 53 and 54, ARJP	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>(Measurement Starts Here)</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Petition filed 72 hours from removal:</u></b> If a child is taken into temporary custody, a written statement must be provided to the parents that the child will be returned within <b>72 hours</b> unless a dependency petition is filed.</p> <p><b><u>Preliminary Protective Hearing:</u></b> Held within <b>5-7 days</b> of removal.</p> <p><b><u>Initial Dependency Hearing:</u></b> Only held if parents fail to appear at the preliminary protective hearing. Must be held <b>21 days</b> from service of petition.</p> <p><b><u>Settlement or Pretrial Conference or Mediation:</u></b> A settlement conference may be held for the purpose of identifying and resolving issues in a non-adversarial manner. If settlement is not reached, a pretrial conference may be held prior to the dependency adjudication hearing.</p>
<b>Adjudication Hearing:</b> A.R.S. § 8-842(C) Rule 55(B), ARJP	<p><b><u>Adjudication Hearing:</u></b> The dependency adjudication hearing shall be completed within <b>90 days</b> of service of the petition. Hearing may be extended <b>30 days</b> for good cause shown.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Arizona Revised Statutes

<sup>2</sup> Arizona Rules of Juvenile Procedure

Arizona Rules and Statutes	Timelines under Statute and Rule
A.R.S. § 8-845 Rule 56(B) ARJP	<p><b><u>Disposition Hearing:</u></b> Shall be held within <b>30 days</b> of the dependency adjudication or in conjunction with the hearings above.</p> <p><b>(Measurement Stops Here for Adjudication Hearing.)</b></p>
<p><b><u>Permanency Hearing:</u></b></p> A.R.S. § 8-862(A) Rule 60(C), ARJP	<p><b><u>Permanency Hearing:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within 30 days of disposition if no reunification services ordered.</li> <li>• Within <b>6 months</b> of removal if child is under 3 years of age</li> <li>• Within <b>12 months</b> of removal on all other cases</li> </ul> <p><b>(Measurement Stops Here for Permanency Hearing.)</b></p>